PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN LEONIA

Connecting with PCL

Worship this Sunday



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ALL SAINTS DAY

November 1

"Not Far From the Kingdom"

Rev. Debra Given

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE

Choir at **9:15am**

Sunday School at **9:30am**

Worship Service at **10:30am**

There will be Activity Period during the service for 4th grade and younger

SUNDAY'S LEADERS

Elder: Tom Topousis

Second Reader: Lois Zeigler

Greeter: Alice Mungwa (month of November)

Ushers: Tara Coleman, Eulalia Cabrera

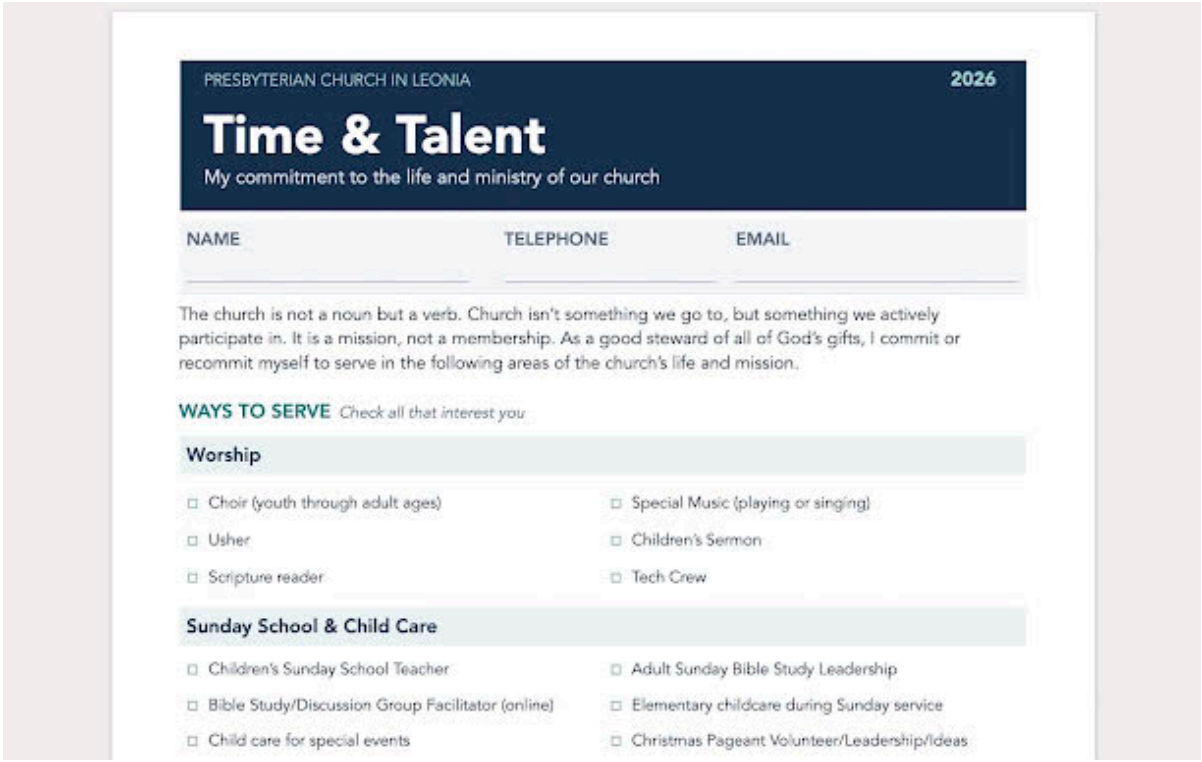
Coming Up

This Sunday Guest Preacher, Rev. Debra Given



This Sunday, the **Rev. Debra Given** comes to us as no stranger but dearly beloved as the pastor in this church from 2000 until she retired in January 2016. Debra lives in Manhattan with her husband, Tom Phillips, and enjoys occasional substitute preaching, as well as visiting with her children and grandchildren, sewing, playing the Irish drum (bodhran), and singing in the hospice choir, Eventide, which she founded after retiring. More recently, she and Tom can also be found singing parts of the Constitution with a feisty group of senior citizens every Saturday, weather permitting, outside Columbia University.

Share Your *Time & Talents*



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN LEONIA 2026

Time & Talent

My commitment to the life and ministry of our church

NAME TELEPHONE EMAIL

The church is not a noun but a verb. Church isn't something we go to, but something we actively participate in. It is a mission, not a membership. As a good steward of all of God's gifts, I commit or recommit myself to serve in the following areas of the church's life and mission.

WAYS TO SERVE *Check all that interest you*

Worship

- ☐ Choir (youth through adult ages)
- ☐ Special Music (playing or singing)
- ☐ Usher
- ☐ Children's Sermon
- ☐ Scripture reader
- ☐ Tech Crew

Sunday School & Child Care

- ☐ Children's Sunday School Teacher
- ☐ Adult Sunday Bible Study Leadership
- ☐ Bible Study/Discussion Group Facilitator (online)
- ☐ Elementary childcare during Sunday service
- ☐ Child care for special events
- ☐ Christmas Pageant Volunteer/Leadership/Ideas

The church is not a noun but a verb. Church isn't something we go to, but something we actively participate in. It is a mission and not a membership. There are countless ways for us to assist the church in its ministries, and it's something we all can do to ensure its continued success.

What are those ways? I'm glad you asked! On the Ark, we have a **Time and Talents Form** which lists various ministries to get involved in—everything from singing in the choir, to helping lead Sunday School, to visiting church members who are homebound, to doing miscellaneous jobs around the property, to serving on a committee. There is something for everyone! Doing your part will help ensure that Church remains a collective work of all and not the doing of only a select few. I hope you'll take a minute to fill out the T&T Form to express your interests.

See the Form attached to this email.

Our Sanctuary "Retreat" Tree

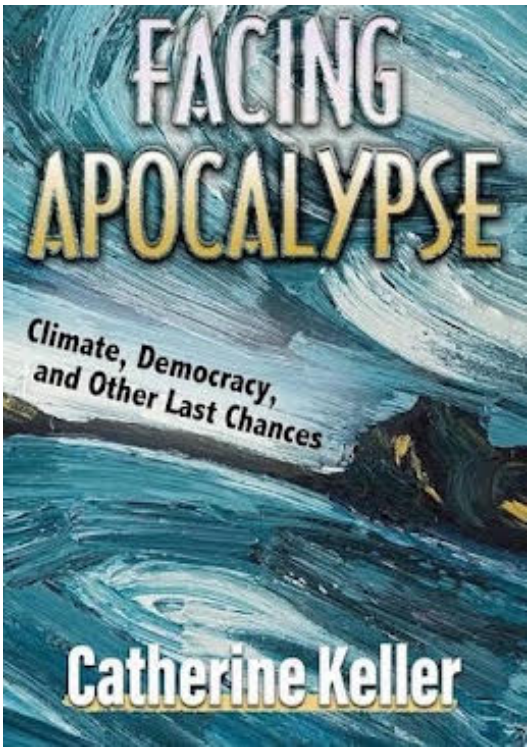


This Sunday, you'll notice the **colorful tree** at the front of our worship space. This tree is decorated with reflections from last Sunday's "retreat". The colorful leaves and acorns represent thanksgivings of the congregation. The differently-colored mushrooms at the bottom are marked with various ways in which we find "grounding" in these days. The larger "stickie notes" bear reflections on what needs to be uprooted in our lives and practices/committees to help us do that work. Many thanks to Rachel and Helen for creating the stunning structure, and all who participated last Sunday in the "retreat" and these reflections.

Leonia Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, Nov. 24

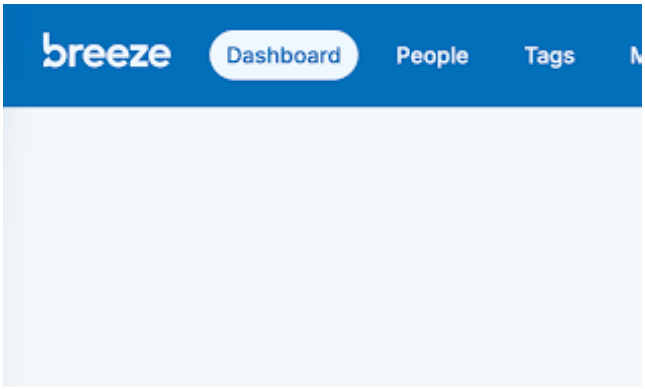


Fall Discussion Group, Tuesdays at 9:30 am



We have started a new **Fall Discussion Group** which meets each **Tuesday** morning virtually on **Zoom at 9:30 am**. The study for this season will center on Catherine Keller's book ***Facing Apocalypse: Climate, Democracy and Other Last Chances***. This is a chance to study the book of revelation through the lens and context of our own present economic, ecological, and political crisis. You do not have to have any prior knowledge about the biblical book to be a part of this discussion group. Reach out to Rev. Mike if interested in taking part. It's not too late to join!

Having Breeze issues?



Breeze is our online database to locate contact information for church members. If you aren't yet connected on Breeze, or if you have an account but have had issues logging-in, please contact Rev. Mike to get setup or have your password reset (revmike@leoniapres.org; (917) 687-5709).

Other Announcements

Upcoming Meeting
Worship Committee meeting on Sun., Nov. 15 following worship.

Stewardship Season this November: Stewardship season begins this Sunday, Nov. 1 with Stewardship Sunday taking place on Nov. 22. In worship through the month of November, you will hear more about how you can participate and support our church by making a financial pledge. Your faithful giving sustains every aspect of our shared ministry: worship and music, mission outreach, ministries, education, fellowship, and the stewardship of our building. Each gift helps us plan wisely for the present while planting strong roots for the future.

Save the Date: Christmas Pageant, Dec. 20
Families, the holidays will get busy before we know. Go ahead and save-the-date for this year's Christmas Pageant on Sunday, Dec. 20. This is always a highlight of the season as the children and youth prepare for this meaningful service of worship.

Hosting Diwali Dinner, Sat., Nov. 14
Though not a church event, we are excited to host another Diwali Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 14. We celebrate our multicultural community and are so glad to be able to offer our facilities for the benefit of the Leonia Indian Community.

Age-Friendly Leonia: For Student Service Hours (Yard/Snow)
Age-Friendly Leonia is a youth volunteer program to provide fall and spring yard clean-ups and snow removal over the winter months. This will be for residents 70 and older or with physical or financial challenges. Several teens from LHS are currently organizing volunteers for this effort which is called Leonia Together, Connecting Generations, Strengthening Community.
If your student needs service hours and would be interested in volunteering, you can sign-up by texting the Ask Anything line at (201) 540-9364. Teen leader, Olivia Choi, will respond to provide details and have them sign a waiver. The text service will track hours.
At this time, there are two fall leaf clean-up days scheduled for Sat., Nov. 14 and Sat., Dec. 5. Snow removal will be pre-scheduled based on weather forecasts. For further questions, contact Mary Gendron (agefriendlyleonia@leonianj.gov; cell: (917) 340-1006).

This Week at PCL

November 1 (Sun)
9:15 am—Choir
9:30 am—Sunday School
10:30 am—Worship

November 2 (Mon)
10:00 am—Beginner ESL Class
1:00 pm—Advanced ESL Class

November 3 (Tues)
Election Day
9:30 am—Virtual Discussion Group
10:00 am—Intermediate ESL Class

November 4 (Wed)
10:00 am—Intermediate ESL Class

November 5 (Thurs)
10:00 am—Beginner ESL Class
7:00 pm—BollyX Class

November 6 (Fri)
10:00 am—Intermediate ESL Class

November 7 (Sat)
10:00 am—Support Group Meeting

November 8 (Sun)
9:15 am—Choir
9:30 am—Sunday School
10:30 am—Worship

Rev. Mike Eller (he/him/his)
Interim Minister
revmike@leoniapres.org
(917) 687-5709

General Office Hours
Day off: Friday
Mon-Thurs: 10-3 pm
Sun: *Schedule with Mike*